

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 9006

By Whitson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Colonel Larry B. Berrong (Ret.) upon his induction into the East Tennessee State University ROTC Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in paying tribute to those exemplary individuals who have devoted their careers and themselves to service in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Larry B. Berrong (Ret.), an esteemed veteran of the United States Army, will be inducted into the East Tennessee State University U.S. Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Hall of Fame in a ceremony to be held on November 5, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the East Tennessee State University (ETSU) ROTC Hall of Fame recognizes alumni, former cadre members, and others who have distinguished themselves professionally and have made significant contributions to the program; and

WHEREAS, one such notable ETSU alumnus is Colonel Larry Berrong, who served his nation with the utmost integrity and valor for more than twenty-eight years before taking a much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Larry Berrong was born August 13, 1941, in Madison, Georgia; he graduated from Chamblee High School in Georgia in 1959 and attended ETSU on a football scholarship; and

WHEREAS, a member of Pi Kappa Alpha and Scabbard and Blade, Colonel Berrong graduated from ETSU in 1963 as a Distinguished Military Graduate; and

WHEREAS, in February 1964, he reported for active duty to Fort Benning, Georgia, where he graduated from Infantry Officer Basic, Airborne School, and Ranger School; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Larry Berrong was then assigned to the 11th Air Assault Division, which became the 1st Air Cavalry Division (Air Mobile), and was deployed to Vietnam in August 1965 as an Infantry Platoon Leader; and

WHEREAS, after seven months, his infantry detail was completed, and he was reassigned as a Military Police (MP) Platoon Leader to the 716th MP Battalion in Saigon; Colonel Berrong served his second Vietnam tour from 1969 to 1970 as an S-2, first with the 16th MP Group in Nha Trang and then the 18th MP Brigade in Long Bien; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Berrong served in a variety of Military Police assignments during his twenty-eight-year career, including Deputy Provost Marshal, 82nd Airborne Division; Executive Officer, 503rd MP Battalion; Commander, Hawaii District Criminal Investigation Division; Commander, 720th MP Battalion; Director of Physical Security, Office of the Provost Marshal, U.S. Army Europe; and Commandant of the United States Disciplinary Barracks and Assistant Commandant of the U.S. Army Military Police School; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Larry Berrong is also a graduate of the U.S. Army War College, Command and General Staff College, having completed MP Officer Advanced, Brigade, and Battalion Command courses, and he earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his exemplary military service, Colonel Berrong has received a number of awards and decorations, including the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Ranger Tab, Airborne Wings, Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and a number of service medals; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from the U.S. Army in 1992, Colonel Berrong enjoyed a civilian career with Wackenhut Services, Inc., from which he retired in 2006 as a senior vice president; and

WHEREAS, Larry Berrong has been married to the love of his life, Carolyn, who is also an ETSU graduate, for fifty-six years; they are the proud parents of two daughters, Trish and Lori, and the doting grandparents of two grandsons, Adam and Jason; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Larry Berrong has distinguished himself as a leader of the greatest dedication and ability, and it is most fitting that he should be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Colonel Larry B. Berrong (Ret.) upon his induction into the East Tennessee State University ROTC Hall of Fame, thank him for his years of devoted service to his country as a military officer, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.